

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. – 10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) Packaging for a bandage having a patient-contacting surface with a peripheral edge, the patient-contacting surface, including an absorbent layer completely surrounded by an adhesive that extends to the peripheral edge in all directions, comprising:

first and second removable sheets, both extending beyond the peripheral edge of the bandage and peripherally joined so that the bandage is contained between the removable sheets until use; and

wherein one of sheets is in direct contact with the entire adhesive on the patient-contacting surface until that sheet is removed.

12. (Previously Presented) The packaging of claim 11, wherein the first and second removable sheets are made of paper.

13. – 14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) The packaging of claim 11, wherein one of the first and second removable sheets includes a dog-ear tab to assist in removal.

16. (Previously Presented) A bandage construction, consisting of a bandage portion having a patient-contacting front surface with an adhesive, a back surface and a peripheral edge; and

a packaging portion including first and second removable sheets, both extending beyond the peripheral edge of the bandage, and wherein the first and second removable sheets are peripherally joined so that the bandage is contained between the removable sheets until use.

17. (Previously Presented) The bandage construction of claim 16, wherein the first and second removable sheets are made of paper.

18. – 19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The bandage construction of claim 16, wherein one of the first and second removable sheets includes a dog-ear tab to assist in removal.

21. (Previously Presented) The bandage construction of claim 16, wherein the first and second removable sheets are peripherally joined with an adhesive.

22. – 26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) A method of applying a bandage, comprising the steps of:
providing the bandage construction of claim 16;
removing one of the first and second removable sheets to expose the entire patient-contacting front surface;
applying the bandage portion to a recipient using the adhesive; and
removing the other removable sheet from the back surface of the bandage portion.

28. (Previously Presented) A bandage construction, consisting of:
a bandage portion with a patient-contacting surface including an absorbent layer and an adhesive; and
two removable packaging sheets, one on either side of the bandage portion, such that one of the sheets acts as a release layer to expose the adhesive for use.

29. – 42. (Canceled)

43 (Previously Presented) The bandage construction of claim 16, wherein:
the bandage portion has two ends and a mid section; and
wherein bandage portion is tapered such that the mid section is wider than one or both of the ends.

44. (Previously Presented) The bandage construction of claim 28, wherein:
the bandage portion has two ends and a mid section; and
wherein bandage portion is tapered such that the mid section is wider than one or both of
the ends.